



## Rockville RainScapes Rewards Conservation Landscaping Rebate Application

Conservation landscaping is the removal of turf grass and non-native invasives and replacement with native plant species that have more extensive, deeper root systems. This, coupled with adequate mulching, may slow the flow of stormwater runoff and allow for more groundwater recharge, while trapping nutrients and other pollutants in the soil for uptake by the plants.

The program also offers rebates for **rain barrels installations** and **planting trees**. For the most up-to-date information regarding the City of Rockville's RainScapes program please visit:

<http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/watersheds/rainscapes.html>

### Who Is Eligible

- To participate, your residential property must be located in the City of Rockville.
- Projects are **not** eligible if they are associated with permit approval requirements for new building construction, additions, or renovations.
- Projects that are partially or completely finished before approval will **not** qualify for rebates.
- All requirements as outlined below, in the application, and in the *Design Criteria and Guidelines for Project Eligibility* must be met. All decisions are final and are at the sole discretion of the City of Rockville.

### Application Process & Requirements

- 1. Submit your application, property owner agreement, and “before” photos for approval.**  
*Complete applications should be e-mailed to the RainScapes Coordinator at [rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov) or mail to 30 Courthouse Square, Rockville MD 20850.*
- 2. Receive application approval from RainScapes Coordinator.**  
*Wait to receive application approval from the RainScapes Coordinator before beginning the project. Please allow three weeks for processing. Projects must be completed within six (6) months of approval.*
- 3. Begin and complete your project.**  
*You must retain and submit itemized receipts and/or final invoices for all project costs. Documented costs must equal or exceed the rebate amount requested. The project must adhere to the most recent Design Criteria and Guidelines for Project Eligibility.*
- 4. Final inspection.**  
*Call or email the City of Rockville RainScapes Coordinator at 240-314-8877 or [rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov) to schedule a final inspection. Inspections will generally be scheduled within ten (10) business days. Submit itemized receipts and/or final invoice for all project costs. Photocopies are acceptable. At the final inspection, installation of the project will be verified, and the project area will be photographed.*
- 5. Receive reimbursement check.**  
*If all requirements are met, the rebate will be approved, and a check will be issued by the City of Rockville's Department of Finance within three to six weeks.*

Please mail or e-mail the completed application with required information and **wait to receive approval** from the City of Rockville. If you have any questions please contact the RainScapes Coordinator at 240-314-8877 or [rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov)

**City of Rockville – Environmental Management Division  
RainScapes Rewards Rebate Program  
30 Courthouse Square, Suite 100  
Rockville, MD 20850  
[rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov)**

Special thanks to Montgomery County's RainScapes Program for sharing their curriculum and text.

Although City residents are ineligible for the County rebate, we are modeling much of our program after Montgomery County's so please feel free to reference their website for any additional information.

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dectmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/water/rainscapes.asp>



## Design Criteria and Guidelines for Project Eligibility

### Issue Date 1/2013

*\*\* These guidelines and criteria will be periodically updated to ensure currency with the latest technical information and best practices – please verify that you have the latest version. \*\**

### Conservation Landscaping Requirements:

- ☐ **Written approval** from the RainScapes Coordinator is required before you begin installation or construction. Projects that are partially or completely finished before approval will not qualify for rebates.
- ☐ Established turf area to be converted must be **at least 250 square feet**.
- ☐ A **planting plan** is required that includes
  - sketch of the area drawn at 1' = 10', 1/8" = 1', or 1/4" = 1'.
  - plant species, container size and quantities
  - planting densities
  - plant material source
  - soil amendments (if any)
  - maintenance plan.
- ☐ At least **¾ of the plants must be native** plants or cultivars to this ecoregion.
- ☐ A **three-inch mulch layer** is required to inhibit weed growth, prevent soil loss and retain moisture.
- ☐ The plan **must not include any species from the City's Invasive Species Plant List** (available at <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/stewardship/invasives.html#weedwarrior> or by emailing rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov)
- ☐ **No plastic sheeting** (impermeable weed barrier) will be permitted in a turf conversion area.

### Additional Resources:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
<http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/Chesapeake/toc.htm>

Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council  
<http://www.chesapeakelandscapes.org/>



## RainScapes Rewards Rebate Application Conservation Landscaping



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Property Owner (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Address (if not same as above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

**Rebate:** \$1 per square foot of area converted with a minimum of 250 square feet converted (\$250), up to a maximum rebate of \$750 per property.

How did you hear about the RainScapes Program? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received a rebate through the City of Rockville's RainScapes program in the past? If yes, which program were you rebated under - rain barrel, conservation landscaping or tree planting?

### Project Details

Describe the turf removal project location, project goals, sequence of construction, access for maintenance, sun exposure, etc. Add separate sheets if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Size of turf area to be converted: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dimensions (must add up to at least 250 sq. ft.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Total existing turf area before removal: \_\_\_\_\_

### Planting Plan

Please attach a detailed plant list including species, spacing, sizes and plant density. Include a sketch of the area drawn at (1" = 10' OR 1/8" = 1' OR 1/4" = 1') Submit PRIOR TO BEGINNING WORK – begin work AFTER receiving approval

Where will you obtain your plants? \_\_\_\_\_

What guidance documents or resources are you using to plan your landscape?

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How will you dispose of the removed turf?

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**Project Cost**

Please estimate your conservation landscaping costs, including mulch and any other supplies needed (itemized receipts are required upon project completion):

Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_ Rebate Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Installation: \_\_\_\_Do it yourself \_\_\_\_Contractor \_\_\_\_Other:

If you are using a contractor or other group, please provide the following information.

Contractor/Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor/Installer Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Site Photos (Before Shots)**

Don't forget to attach, either digitally or hard copy, photos of the project site! (max 6)

**\*\*OPTIONAL: I agree to allow reasonable access to the RainScapes project site for periodic public tours organized by the City of Rockville (advance notification will be made by the City of Rockville).                      Yes                      No**

**I have read and agree with all RainScapes Rewards rebate program requirements.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or e-mail the completed application with required information and **wait to receive approval** from the City of Rockville.

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